

AFCENT Airpower Summary

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As of 30 Nov 2017

Operation Inherent Resolve – destroying ISIS in Iraq and Syria

Coalition airpower's decisive effects continued to enable SDF and ISF advances, leading to the liberation of more than 97 percent of ISIS-held territory and the constriction of ISIS into pockets near the Iraq-Syria border and along the Euphrates River. With the campaign's major combat operations complete, the average daily weapon release dipped to single digits and even zero on several days in November. There were 1,000 munitions expended against ISIS' dwindling ranks in November, a record low since September 2014.

Despite this decrease, Coalition and Iraqi Airmen continue to hunt down ISIS to prevent their return and safeguard hard won gains. As Coalition aircraft protect partner ground forces' effort to annihilate ISIS, we will continue to deconflict with the Russians, who have demonstrated concerning airmanship in the increasingly congested airspace. This deconfliction remains vital to ensuring the focus remains on defeating ISIS.

Operation Freedom's Sentinel & Resolute Support Mission – advising Afghan Air Forces & countering terrorism

November marked the start of a deliberate, conditions-based campaign to hit the Taliban where it hurts most – their revenue sources. Starting Nov. 19, Afghan National Defense and Security Forces and U.S. forces launched combined operations to hit Taliban command and control nodes and their primary revenue source – narcotic related targets. In the first three days of the new campaign, Afghan and U.S. airstrikes removed approximately \$7-10 million of revenue from the Taliban's pocketbook. Subsequent strikes over next two weeks raised total figures to \$12M in Taliban revenue erased and had a negative \$60 million impact on global drug trafficking organizations.

This new campaign signals a shift to an approach guided by conditions on the ground instead of arbitrary timetables or "fighting seasons." The new campaign will be relentless and empowered by new authorities that allow the U.S. to aggressively take the fight to the enemy.

Unlike previous air operations in Afghanistan since Operation Freedom Sentinel began in January 2015, the Combined Air Operations Center enabled these strikes with deliberate planning that involved hundreds of hours of preparation and intelligence collection. U.S. Air Force F-22s, F-16s, B-52s and MQ-9s were carefully selected for their ability to conduct precision airstrikes with low collateral munitions that minimized the risk of civilian casualties. These aircraft released 80 precision munitions against 19 targets, destroying Taliban narcotics production facilities, a C2 node and an improvised explosive device facility – <https://www.dvidshub.net/feature/AfghanUSForcesNewOffensiveCampaign>. Strike aircraft were enabled by refueling support from KC-10s and KC-135s, persistent ISR from MQ-9s, command and control from E-8 JSTARS, and non-kinetic effects from EC-130Hs.

The ANDSF's role in conducting the opening strikes of this campaign demonstrated their increased ability to conduct complex operations against threats facing their country. November also heralded increased airpower capabilities with the delivery of two more UH-60s, which will soon be piloted by the first six Afghan Air Force UH-60 pilots who graduated from training, Nov. 20. The AAF is expected to have four qualified crews by Spring 2018, and 32 crews by Spring 2019.

Looking ahead, air planners are actively preparing to support the arrival of the U.S. Army Security Force Assistance Brigade in early 2018. Throughout November, mobility crews delivered more than 3,280 short tons of cargo consisting of ammunition and more than 60 vehicles, including MaxxPro Mine Resistant Ambush Protected (MRAPs) and medium tactical vehicles.

Combined Forces Air Component Commander 2012-2017 Airpower Statistics

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As of 30 Nov 2017

OPERATION FREEDOM'S SENTINEL/RESOLUTE SUPPORT MISSION

Close Air Support*

Sorties		Sorties with at least one weapon release	
2012	28,760	2012	1,975
2013	21,900	2013	1,408
2014	12,978	2014	1,136
2015	5,774	2015	411
2016	5,162	2016	615
2017	4,253	2017	1,104

Number of Weapons Released

Less Activity  More Activity

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Total
2012	170	116	227	252	406	521	504	589	385	414	297	202	4,083
2013	193	297	250	284	368	337	256	158	232	189	118	76	2,758
2014	92	114	95	115	164	272	205	437	441	217	87	126	2,365
2015	40	30	47	31	41	109	79	156	111	203	69	31	947
2016	127	115	58	62	89	94	160	108	162	205	92	65	1,337
2017	54	200	203	460	328	389	350	503	414	653	352		3,906

* Statistics provided includes numbers of sorties (not strikes) and munitions expended by aircraft under CFACC control

Combined Data (minus OIR)

	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
Intel, Surveillance and Recon Sorties	34,937	31,049	32,999	21,634	19,681	15,009
Airlift Sorties	39,000	32,000	17,040	6,900	10,300	10,107
Airlift Cargo (Short Tons)	265,000	201,000	158,400	50,000	69,200	75,908
Airlift Passengers	749,000	506,000	202,700	78,000	111,100	112,010
Supplies Airdropped (Pounds)	41,952,000	10,883,000	28,000	0	0	20,563
Tanker Sorties	16,007	12,319	9,085	5,323	4,910	5,362
Fuel Offloaded (Millions of Pounds)	980	723	636	201	150	155
Aircraft Refuelings	67,020	53,266	46,793	26,162	18,137	16,621
Casualty Evacuation Sorties	2,171	576	115	1	0	0
Saves	1,187	219	32	3	1	0
Assists	1,646	477	84	0	0	0

- Some figures may have changed due to data re-calculation and re-verification
- Assets under CFACC control include a compilation of aircraft from all U.S. military branches of service, as well as Coalition aircraft; however, not all aircraft flying in the AOR fall under CFACC control.

Combined Forces Air Component Commander 2012-2017 Airpower Statistics

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As of 30 Nov 2017

OPERATION INHERENT RESOLVE

Close Air Support/Escort/Interdiction*

Number of Weapons Released

Less Activity  More Activity

Sorties		Sorties with at least one weapon release		Number of Weapons Released												
Year	Sorties	Year	Sorties	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Total
2014	6,591	2014	2,003								269	931	1,746	1,458	1,888	6,292
2015	21,116	2015	9,912	2,426	1,853	1,685	1,862	2,145	1,683	2,823	2,758	2,380	2,694	3,242	3,145	28,696
2016	21,181	2016	11,825	2,718	2,090	2,052	2,582	2,341	3,160	2,439	2,244	2,427	3,038	2,709	2,943	30,743
2017	18,008	2017	9,746	3,600	3,439	3,878	3,274	4,374	4,848	4,313	5,075	3,550	1,642	1,000		38,993

* Statistics provided includes numbers of sorties (not strikes) and munitions expended by aircraft under CFACC control

	2014	2015	2016	2017
Intel, Surveillance and Recon Sorties	2,373	9,514	12,270	13,238
Airlift and Airdrop Sorties	1,992	10,050	8,400	8,529
Airlift Cargo (Short Tons)*	14,555	78,500	72,800	63,565
Airlift Passengers*	9,900	47,200	46,900	68,989
Supplies Airdropped (Pounds)	1,417,900	111,200	822,171	564,872
Tanker Sorties	4,859	14,737	13,064	12,403
Fuel Offloaded (Millions of Pounds)	282	912	804	721
Aircraft Refuelings	28,956	84,381	80,912	64,502

* Iraq only



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